

C l a i m s

1. X-ray unit for the generation of brief X-ray pulses, with an X-ray tube (10) which has a thermionic cathode (12) and an anode (16), and with an X-ray generator which has a first circuit (22, 20, 18) for the generation of a high-voltage pulse which is applied to the anode (16) for the generation of the X-ray pulse, the X-ray generator contains a second circuit (26), via which a low voltage is permanently applied to the anode (16) which is not sufficient for the generation of X-radiation (30) and pre-heats the X-ray tube (10).
2. X-ray unit according to claim 1, the first circuit having a high-voltage power supply unit (22) which charges a high-voltage capacitor (20) which can be applied to the anode (16) via a high-voltage switch (18).
3. X-ray unit according to claim 1, characterized in that the second circuit is a Marx generator.
4. X-ray unit according to claim 3, only one power supply being present which generates both the permanently present low voltage and also drives the Marx generator for the generation of the high voltage.
5. Device for the inspection of objects, with an X-ray unit (10) and an imaging apparatus (44, 46) for the generation of an image of the object by means of the X-ray (30), characterized in that the X-ray unit (10) is developed according to one of claims 1 to 4.